

Serial: 232940

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MISSISSIPPI

No. 2020-AP-00751

***IN RE: JUDICIAL APPOINTMENT RELATED TO
CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19): SPECIAL JUDGE
FOR THE COUNTY COURT OF HINDS COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI***

ORDER APPOINTING SPECIAL JUDGE

Before the Chief Justice is the request of the duly elected County Court Judge LaRita Cooper-Stokes, in the First and Second Judicial Districts of the County Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, for the appointment of a special judge on a temporary basis to provide assistance in performing her duties due to the unforeseen needs proximately caused and/or contributed by COVID-19. The Court finds that it is appropriate under Mississippi Code Section 9-1-105 to appoint Honorable James D. Bell, Senior Status Judge, as a Special Temporary Judge for the First and Second Judicial Districts of the County Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, from the entry of this order through December 30, 2020.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that ***Honorable James D. Bell***, Senior Status Judge, be, and he is hereby appointed as a Special Temporary Judge of the First and Second Judicial Districts of the County Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, to assist duly elected County Court Judge LaRita Cooper Stokes from the entry of this order through December 30, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that all compensation and necessary expenses incurred by Honorable James D. Bell and approved by the Administrative Office of Courts will be paid through the Supreme Court's AOC-CARES

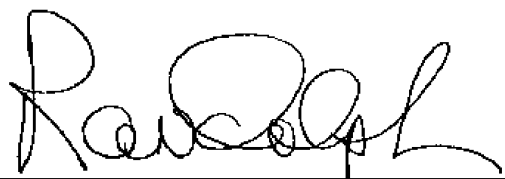
Act COVID-19 Fund.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that all compensation and other necessary expenses incurred with respect to the COVID-19 crisis must be incurred by December 30, 2020.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Clerk of this Court shall transmit copies of this order to: Honorable James D. Bell, Special Judge, the Honorable Larita Cooper-Stokes, the Honorable Carlyn Hicks, and the Honorable Johnnie McDaniels, County Court Judges of the First and Second Judicial Districts of the County Court of Hinds County; the Hinds County Circuit Clerk for the First and Second Judicial Districts, Mrs. Carol Allgood, Finance Director of the Mississippi Supreme Court, and Lisa Counts, Deputy Director of Administrative Office of Courts.

SO ORDERED,

DIGITAL SIGNATURE
Order#: 232940
Sig Serial: 100002189
Org: SC
Date: 07/24/2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randolph", written over a horizontal line.

Michael K. Randolph, Chief Justice